

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. DIANE LAWSON

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Ms. Diane Lawson. Ms. Lawson served her constituency faithfully and justly during her tenure as the Ripley Town Assessor.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Ms. Lawson served her term with her head held high and a smile on her face the entire way. I have no doubt that her kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Ms. Lawson is one of those people and that is why Madam Speaker I rise in tribute to her today.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL KELLER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Michael Keller and his tremendous impact on the community.

Mr. Keller has been an important part of the Brooklyn community in many ways. Through his participation at the YMCA, Mr. Keller has strengthened our community and reminded us of the importance of investing in our youth. Mr. Keller has been a part of the YMCA since 1977 when he volunteered in a youth swim program. Since then, his roles have included Day Camp Director, Program Director, Membership Director and for the last 14 years, Executive Director of the East Orange (NJ) YMCA, Flatbush YMCA and later the Long Island City YMCA.

When he isn't spending time at the Y, Mike volunteers his time in other youth related programs and activities. He is a coach in the Gioia YMCA baseball and basketball leagues, and has served as an Assistant Scoutmaster for his local Boy Scout Troop. Additionally, Mike is currently a member of the Queensborough Rotary Club and has served as president of a number of Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs as well as other community organizations. Mike is a native of the Bronx and has a BA in English from Brooklyn College. He resides in Harlem with his wife, four children and grandson.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Michael Keller.

HONORING NELSON SMOTHERMAN
ON A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nelson Smotherman, who is retiring after 60 years as a sports statistician in middle Tennessee.

Nelson began keeping statistics for sports broadcasts in 1950. His first broadcast was for a Murfreesboro Central football game for WGN radio. This March, Nelson worked his 4,000th game.

He has been called a legend and a walking encyclopedia, whose remarkable mind for sports statistics and 60 years of experience in the field have made him a pillar of our State's athletic programs.

Nelson's institutional memory has been an invaluable asset for the athletes of middle Tennessee. In his time in the booth, Nelson witnessed the integration of high school sports teams. He saw women's basketball shift from a 6-on-6 half-court game to 5-on-5 full-court play. He had a chance to work with some 50 different broadcasters. He maintains basketball records that go back to when the game was new, and has kept stats at State tournaments in four different sports. Nelson has been inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association and has a softball field named in his honor in Murfreesboro.

Nelson's impact on the lives of young people in our community reaches well beyond the broadcast booth. He has served as Sunday School Secretary at the First Presbyterian Church in Murfreesboro for more than 50 years, and he continues to help coach the Oakland High School girls' softball team.

Nelson, your involvement in middle Tennessee sports will be missed, but I wish you all the best. I hope you enjoy a long and happy retirement.

HONORING BRYAN JOHN KUNZE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryan John Kunze of Fayette, Missouri, who is retiring this year after serving 24 years as Police Chief; the longest service in the history of the city of Fayette.

Mr. Kunze is a lifelong resident of Fayette, Missouri, graduating from Fayette High School in 1976. He went on to graduate from the University of Missouri Law Enforcement Training Institute and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Course. He has completed more than 3,000 hours of law enforcement training throughout his prestigious career.

Mr. Kunze has also vigorously served his community by going above and beyond his responsibilities as a deputy and as Police Chief. He has been an active volunteer fireman for the Fayette and Howard County rural fire department for more than 32 years; four of which he served as Fire Chief. Mr. Kunze was instrumental in spearheading the 911 Committee which established the emergency procedure for his county. In addition, he was also appointed to the 911 board several times. Furthermore, he has maintained active service and memberships in the Missouri Police Chiefs Association, the Missouri Federation of Police Chiefs, the International Association of Police Chiefs, and the Mid-Missouri Major Case Squad. He also serves the community as a deacon in his home church and current President of the Fayette City Cemetery.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in honoring Bryan John Kunze, who not only fulfilled his duties of service and leadership to his county and surrounding communities, but also set the bar for deputies and police chiefs across the nation. It is my privilege to represent such a deserving individual in the United States Congress.

HONORING MRS. MARY FOLEY
REILLY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Mary Foley Reilly of Spring Lake, New Jersey. Mrs. Reilly will be honored as the 2010 Citizen of the Year by the Greater Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce at a celebration on Thursday, April 29, 2010. Her reception of this prestigious honor is well-deserved in light of her contributions to the retail business community in Spring Lake and the greater Monmouth County area.

Mrs. Reilly owns and operates The Irish Centre, a destination store at the Jersey Shore that has specialized in the sales of Irish merchandise for the past thirty years. The Irish Centre, now located at two separate locations in the Irish-dominated town of Spring Lake, is known for dealing in high end, "heirloom quality" merchandise. As an active entrepreneur, Mrs. Reilly hand selects much of the merchandise in her store, and specializes in handmade, authentic Irish products. Her achievement as a successful businesswoman brings great pride and joy to Spring Lake Township and the State of New Jersey.

Mrs. Reilly has also made great strides in bringing our Irish-American citizens closer to their ancestral homeland. Over the years The Irish Centre has sponsored concerts, lecture series, fine art shows, and readings run by the finest Irish talent. Furthermore, Mrs. Reilly has continuously supported and publicized numerous parades, festivals, and fundraisers in promotion of Irish heritage. Her attempts to remain connected with her ancestral homeland

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